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## Notes for Tonight's 25 Grafton Common Sign Application

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Mon, Sep 23, 2019 at 4:04 PM

To: Dave Robbins <robbins.dave@verizon.net>, "Hassinger Linda C." <lc.hassinger@gmail.com>, "Justin Wood (Callek)" <callek@gmail.com>, Prabhu Venkataraman <prabhuvb@yahoo.com>, Robert Hassinger <r.hassinger@ieee.org>, Vikram Dave <vdave73@gmail.com>

Cc: Natalia Alward &lt;alwardn@grafton-ma.gov&gt;

Hello,

I am still trying to recover from last week and have not had a chance to prepare a memo about the sign application. The following is a response to questions raised:

Where does the Inn stand now as to allowed signage? Answer: For a multi-tenant building, signage that is allowed is 1.25 sq ft for each linear length of wall. For the wall facing the common it results in 1.25 X 52 = 65 sq ft.

Are the still putting out the sandwich sign in the sidewalk? Answer: No

What is the sign that is sitting on the ground in the one photo/illustration? Answer: The sign on the ground was the old one that was on the brackets. The proposed sign is to replace the ones that were previously installed.

I need a bit more clarity on how the requested signage compares to what the ZBL allows (eg how much of a deviation is this)?

Answer: Bob Berger and I met with the applicant about two weeks ago to nail down the area. the Grafton Inn Sign is 3' by 5' for 15 square feet. Since the bylaw allows you to divide up the signage on two facades, the 15 sq feet and the two proposed signs at 13.75 feet continue to be under the 65 sq ft that would be permitted.

The closest sign of that type I can think of is the one at the Town House Tavern. It would be helpful to compare its size to what is proposed in this case. Answer: The sign that is proposed is the same sign as what used to be installed. See attachment Photo 1.

This is a SP. I did not spot any waiver requests. Pretty much no submission materials.

Answer: Signs do not trigger site plan review therefore there is no submission list to request a waiver from. The Board has not had waiver requests for past sign applications.

I did not see anything about the need or justifying exceeding the ZBL. Answer: The Application is before the Board due to the need to install a sign greater than 6 square feet in area be placed over a sidewalk. Section 4.4.3.4.4 restricts area to 6 square feet. The application is to allow for an increase in area from 6 feet to 13.75 feet to be consistent with the one at the rear of the Inn. The proposed sign is new to be consistent with the one with will replace a sign that was previously installed at the rear of the Inn. A new one of the same dimensions was to be installed at the front. Historic District Commission has issued an approval on August 15, 2019.

What is the status wrt the Historic District? Their approval could make a significant difference, and a denial would settle the question. Answer: The Historic District Commission has approved new signs at the Inn. First, a new sign replacing the Grafton Inn sign at the same dimensions was approved by the Commission on July 24, 2019. Second a sign for a tenant that will not need to come before the Board was approved by the commission on July 24, 2019 including a barber pole. Lastly, the two projecting signs were approved August 15, 2019.

I will be there to provide more information in person and the applicant will call in.

Joe

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 Joseph Laydon

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EXHIBIT 5



**Photo 1 - Existing Sign.JPG**  
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